REMARKS

This is in response to the Advisory Action mailed January 27, 2004. Applicant respectfully traverses and request reconsideration.

Added Claims 27-42

Applicant respectfully submits, for the Examiner's consideration, newly submitted claims 27-42. It is submitted these claims do not add any new subject matter beyond the subject matter originally disclosed in the application as filed. For example, newly submitted claim 27 presents previously presented claim 1 and amended claim 23 with further delineation regarding the limitations of the multi-level distributed speech recognition being between a terminal device and a network device, wherein the terminal device and the network device are wirelessly connected.

For example, claim 27 recites, *inter alia*, "wirelessly providing the audio command to at least one second speech recognition engine in a network device;" "wirelessly transmitting the at least one first recognized audio command to a comparator;". It is submitted this limitation of the wireless terminal device is supported, as originally stated on page 1 of the present application. The first sentence of the background of the invention defines terminal devices to be mobile phones. Therefore, inherently a mobile phone includes a wireless communication between the phone and a network element. Furthermore, within the background section and throughout the body of the application, the network element is clearly described as being a wireless communications network in wireless communication between a terminal device, such as a mobile phone.

For further example, see the discussion regarding prior techniques disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6,185,535 which Applicant admits as prior art in the present case. As noted, the '535 patent only uses the network speech recognition engine when the device speech recognition engine cannot recognize an audio input. For further support, the Examiner is directed FIG. 4 which illustrates the terminal 202 and the network element 204 being in wireless communication thereacross, including session controls for the terminal 214 and session control for the network element 222 for facilitating wireless communication, in accordance with wireless communication protocols.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the added claims do not present any new patentable subject matter. As such, Applicant requests the Examiner's entrance of the present amendment.

Patentability of added claims

In view of the prior art of record, Applicant respectfully submits that added claims 27-42 contain patentable subject matter in view of the prior art of record. None of the prior art references of record disclose, teach or suggest distributed speech recognition across the wireless network where first recognition is done on a terminal device and second recognition is done on a network device after the audio sample has been wirelessly transmitted to the terminal device and wirelessly transmitting the results to the first speech recognition engine to the wireless device for comparisons by the network device.

Applicant notes for the Examiner that the present invention provides patentable subject matter for providing multi-level distributed speech recognition. As described in the specification, as filed, distributed speech recognition engine is improved through utilizing a first speech recognition engine disposed within a terminal device and a second speech recognition engine disposed within a network device. When the terminal device is in wireless communication with the network device, the multi-level distributed speech recognition is improved through the maximization of available resources dependent upon the terminal and network speech recognition engines. A typical terminal speech recognition engine, such as, but not limited to, a speech recognition engine found within a cellular phone, will typically have a limited speech recognition database and limited computing and memory resources. A network device may have seemingly unlimited memory and processing resources. Speech recognition on the terminal device is advantageous due to a quick turn-around time between speech reception and recognition output. Network speech recognition includes latencies due to having to transmit the speech input to the network device. Among other things, the present invention optimizes multi-level speech recognition through the balancing of speech recognition capabilities of the terminal device in comparison with the latent speech recognition of the network device versus the higher level assurance recognition of the network device versus the low level recognition assurance of the terminal device. In other words, the present invention provides for multi-level

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distributed speech recognition between a terminal device which is in wireless communication with a network device. It is submitted that the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest these limitations and that claims 27-42 present patentable subject matter in view thereof.

As such, Applicant submits the present claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the passage of these pending claims to issuance. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,
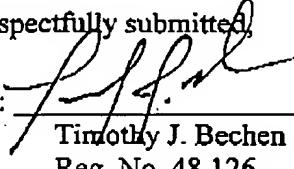
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